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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/913,655	08/15/2001	Patricia A. Harder	BC-1003	4406

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06/02/2003

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Wilmington, DE 19898

EXAMINER

BUI, PHUONG T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1638

9

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/913,655

Applicant(s)
Harder et al.

Examiner
Phuong Bui

Art Unit
1638



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 8, 2001
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 21-76 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. The Office acknowledges the receipt of amendment A filed August 8, 2001. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.126, claims 1-56 have been renumbered as 21-76, respectively.
2. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 21-22, 27-32, and 34, drawn to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:2, 4, or polynucleotides of SEQ ID NO: 1, 3, 14, or 15, host cell, first method of using, and first method of making. If Applicant elects Group I, Applicant is required elect one of these sequences listed here.

Group II, claim(s) 23-24, drawn to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, 4, or polypeptides encoded by SEQ ID NO:1, 3, 14 or 15. If Applicant elects Group II, Applicant is required elect one of these sequences listed here..

Group III, claim(s) 25, 27-30, 39, 41-44, 53, 55-58, 67, and 69-72, drawn to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:17, host cell, and chimeric gene.

Group IV, claim(s) 26, 40, 54, and 68, drawn to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:17.

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Group V, claim(s) 33, drawn to a second method of making a polynucleotide using one of the following sequences: SEQ ID NO:1, 3, 14, or 15. If Applicant elects Group V, Applicant is also required to elect one these sequences listed here.

Group VI, claim(s) 35-36, 41-44 and 48, drawn to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:20, host cell, and chimeric gene.

Group VII, claim(s) 37-38, drawn to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:20.

Group VIII, claim(s) 45 and 59, drawn to a method of using the polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:20 or SEQ ID NO:17. If Applicant elects Group VIII, Applicant is also required to elected one of these sequences listed here.

Group IX, claim(s) 46, drawn to a method of making the polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:20.

Group X, claim(s) 47, drawn to a method of making SEQ ID NO:19.

Group XI, claim(s) 49-50 and 55-58, and 62, drawn to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:22, host cell, and chimeric gene.

Group XII, claim(s) 51-52, drawn to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:22.

Group XIII, claim(s) 59, drawn to a method of using polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:22.

Group XIV, claim(s) 60, drawn to a method of making polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:22.

Group XVI, claim(s) 61, drawn to a method of making polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:21.

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Group XVI, claim(s) 63-64, 69-72, 76, drawn to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO:24, host cell, chimeric gene.

Group XVII, claim(s) 65-66, drawn to a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:24.

Group XVIII, claim(s) 73, drawn to a method of using SEQ ID NO:24.

Group XIX, claim(s) 74, drawn to a method of making a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:23.

Group XX, claim(s) 75, drawn to a second method of making a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:23.

3. The inventions listed as Groups I-XX do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Group I is a polynucleotide and first method of using the polynucleotide which is structurally and functionally divergent from the polypeptide of other groups, as well as methods of making and methods of using other polynucleotides. Moreover, where multiple methods of use of a product are claimed, Applicant is entitled unity of invention between the product and the first claimed process. See 37 CFR 1.475(d).

4. The different polynucleotides do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Though each of the listed polynucleotides is asserted to encode a plant MFP1 protein, each of the polynucleotides is structurally divergent, each of the

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polynucleotides encodes a divergent polypeptide, and are isolated from different sources.

Accordingly, the recited polynucleotides lack a common special technical feature.

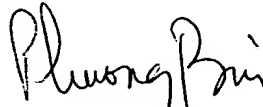
5. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).
6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).
7. Papers relating to this application may be submitted to Technology Sector 1 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Crystal Mall 1, Art Unit 1638, using fax number (703) 308-4242. All Technology Sector 1 fax machines are available to receive transmissions 24 hrs/day, 7 days/wk. Please note that the faxing of such papers must conform with the Notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30, (November 15, 1989).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong Bui whose telephone number is (703) 305-1996.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Amy Nelson, can be reached at (703) 306-3218.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Phuong Bui
Primary Examiner
Group Art Unit 1638
May 27, 2003


PHUONG T. BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
5/28/03